

## Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

DODE-00 DRC-01 /045 W

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R 092128Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3153

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 1023

DEPT PLEASE INFORM BG GORDON SUMNER, JCS, DOD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MCAP, CA

SUBJECT: CANADIAN CENTURION TANK.

DURING THE ORAL QUESTION PERIOD IN THE COMMONS, APRIL 5, THE FOLLOWING EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE BETWEEN ALLAN B. MCKINNON (PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE, VICTORIA) AND THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE, JAMES RICHARDSON:

MCKINNON: "...THE MINISTER HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE MAIN BATTLE TANK OF THE ARMED FORCES WILL BE PHASED OUT AND APPARENTLY NOT REPLACED. CAN THE MINISTER TELL US WHETHER HE PLANS TO RE-EQUIP THE ARMOURED CORPS WITH SOME OTHER TYPE OF ARMOURED FIGHTING VEHICLE SUCH AS ARMOURED CARS, DOES HE INTEND TO CHANGE THE ROLE OF THE ARMOURED CORPS, OR DOES HE INTEND TO DISBAND THE CORPS?"

NIELSEN: "EQUIP THEM WITH SKIDOOS."

RICHARDSON: "...I HAVE STATED SEVERAL TIMES THAT THE DECISION WILL BE ANNOUNCED BEFORE 1976, WHICH IS THE DATE TO WHICH THE SERVICE OF THE CENTURION TANK HAS BEEN EXTENDED."

MCKINNON: AS THIS DECISION AFFECTS THE LIVES OF  
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THOUSANDS OF SERVICEMEN AND THEIR DEPENDENTS, I HOPE

THE MINISTER CAN COME UP WITH SOME BETTER ANSWER THAN  
THAT WITHIN THE NEXT TWO YEARS SO THEY WILL HAVE AN  
OPPORTUNITY TO PLAN THEIR FUTURE."  
JOHNSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, MILITARY PLANS, TANKS (COMBAT VEHICLES)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 APR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974OTTAWA01023  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740081-0862  
**From:** OTTAWA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740455/aaaabyef.tel  
**Line Count:** 65  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 APR 2002  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CANADIAN CENTURION TANK. DURING THE ORAL QUESTION PERIOD IN THE COMMONS, APRIL 5  
**TAGS:** MCAP, CA, (MCKINNON, ALLAN B), (RICHARDSON, JAMES)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005